



Authority Report

For the First Three Quarters of 2005

July 1-March 31



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Introductions:

In the last three quarters, the Authority Board and Staff have continued to bring the benefits of science and technology to people and state of Arkansas by satisfying our performance standards, meeting and surpassing our objectives, and welcoming some valued new faces to our family.



(Top left to right) VP Research, Dr. Gail McClure and Junior staff interns: Kathleen Velek, Patty Trantham & Dustin Hartung.



(Middle left to right) Authority Board Member, Robert Hall and Executive Secretary, Danielle Morris



(From Bottom left to right) Authority Board Members, Johnny Hooks, Collis Geren, and Dr. Gary Phillips

Authority President addresses Senate and House Committees on Technology....

On January 20th, 2005, The Authority President, Dr. John Ahlen, addressed the Senate Committee on Technology and Legislative Affairs at the State Capitol.....



...and on January 24th, Dr. Ahlen spoke to the House Committee on Advanced Communications and Information Technology.

Each time Dr. Ahlen spoke on the knowledge based economy and its importance in Arkansas' future, and was joined by Mr. Doug Elkins, the State's Executive Chief Information Officer, who spoke on the status of Information Technology Development in State Government, and Claire Bailey, Director of the Department of Information Systems, who spoke on the status of Arkansas Wireless Information Network. Each of these presentations was an example of how the Authority satisfies its performance measure goal to plan, promote, influence and support with high quality programs and service the commercialization of research innovations thereby helping to grow the Arkansas economy and increase per capita income.



Meeting Measures in Research

The Authority has set high performance measures and objectives that it aspires to meet, one of which is to make university scientist, technologist, and engineers more nationally competitive for federal research funds. The Authority follows through by continually supporting entities like Arkansas Biosciences Institute, the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), Arkansas Manufacturing Solutions (AMS), and the Arkansas Department of Economic Development (ADED) who it collaborated with in the creation of an R&D tax credit program.

The Authority also supports larger-scale research projects and research infrastructure investments. Authority staff serve on the UALR College of Science and Mathematics advisory board to determine instrumentation needs, and Authority staff members have met with researchers at the University of Arkansas (UA) campus to discuss research funding for nanoscience projects.



On Nov. 7, 2004, the Authority co-hosted the Welcome Reception for the 42nd Annual Briefing of the Council for the Advancement of Science Writing (CASW).

The Authority also supports strategic research and research infrastructure projects that are relevant to the state's economic growth. Authority staff have attended an Acxiom Tresnet meeting and Steering Committee meeting for the Acxiom Laboratory for Applied Research (ALAR), set up meetings and worked with University & National Center for Toxicological Research (NCTR) researchers to develop second round research focus for EPSCoR, and served on the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) College of Science and Mathematics advisory board to determine instrumentation needs. Authority staff have also worked with Tyson Foods, Safety and Laboratory Services, and Nanomaterials and Nanofabrication Laboratories on a R&D plan for submission for the aforementioned ADED tax credit program.



On Friday September 17th 2004, the Arkansas Science & Technology Authority Board of Directors & Authority Staff toured The Arkansas State University Bioscience Institute on the ASU campus in Jonesboro.

To increase the number of faculty in research, Authority staff served on an advisory board of the UAPB STEM project, and attended meetings to evaluate the progress of the program.

The Authority also increases shared projects among institutions by serving on the NASA Space Grant Consortium, which meets monthly, in addition to its afore mentioned NCTR/ EPSCoR work and nanoscience project development, which also helps increase federal research investments at federal facilities in Arkansas.

To increase the relationships between higher education and business development, the Authority worked with ADED in the R&D tax credit program by visiting and working with companies, conducting in-house research, and by helping develop guidelines for R&D forms and tax credit certificates.

The Authority also endeavors to improve science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education by seeking outside support. A good example is the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation (WRF) who it has worked with to insure a smooth transition of the mini-grants program to Arkansas Community Foundation (ARCF) by developing an instruction manual and revising application forms, guidelines and evaluation matrix for use by ARCF affiliates. The Authority also, helped organize and conduct a workshop for the WRF mini-grants program to develop defining characteristics and revise guidelines for future use.



On December 10th and 11th a workshop was held at the Best Western Governor's Suite in Little Rock to educate instructors on how the program can help them enhance the potential of their classrooms.

The STUART Grant Program has provided funds to Arkansas public middle school teachers to use technology for science instruction. The Mini-grant Program has provided funds to Arkansas public middle school teachers to purchase consumable items for student hands-on experiences in science.

The Authority's STUART Grant Program provides a \$5,100 award to Arkansas teachers in grades five, six, seven, and eight to purchase a classroom participation system, a projector and a laptop computer.

The Authority's Mini-grant Program provides a \$500 award to Arkansas teachers in grades five, six, seven, and eight to purchase consumable science materials.

Explore the Authority's Mini-grant & STUART Grant opportunities.....



"The Mini-grant enabled my students to experience what science is all about-discovery."

Melissa Estes, College Hill Middle School
Texarkana, Arkansas

In the last 3 quarters a total of 10 STUART Grants were awarded, and 91 Mini-grants were awarded to 57 schools.

The Authority's President, or designee, serves on the Arkansas School for Mathematics Sciences & the Arts (ASMSA) Board of Visitors, which meets every two months, and also attends two yearly weekend planning retreats to improve science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education.



The Authority helps increase teacher education and preparation in higher education by helping initiate the organization of the Arkansas Mathematics, Science and Technology Coalition and planning and orchestrating the initial meeting co-hosted by Acxiom to address K-12 instructional needs.



Later, in the 3rd quarter, a board for the coalition was elected.

The Authority also serves on the Taskforce for Technology in Education, and planned and initiated a two-day STUART workshop retreat for expanded e-Instruction training for science teachers receiving awards.



The Authority supports Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) in new enterprises and the leveraging of Phase 1 and 2 SBIR awards with all relevant programmatic activities of the Authority. Authority staff accomplished this by visiting with nanotechnology startup companies who submitted SBIR proposals, and writing letters of support on three proposal submissions for Nanomaterials and Nanofabrication Laboratories. Visiting and working with Tyson Foods, and Nanofabrication Laboratories on the ADED R&D tax credit program satisfied the same measure and fulfilled another measure to continually support the Arkansas Department of Economic Development's use of R&D Tax Credits.

In the 3rd quarter the Authority has satisfied performance measures designed to support strategic research and research infrastructure projects that are relevant to the state's economic growth and that make higher education institutions more nationally competitive for federal research funding. On Jan 25th and on March 28th two "brainstorming sessions" were held by the Authority to investigate possible research focus areas for the next round of NSF EPSCoR. Researchers from NCTR, UALR, UAF and ASU attended the sessions. These sessions also satisfied the measure to support larger-scale research projects and research infrastructure investments that make higher education institutions more nationally competitive for federal research funds, and the measure to increase shared projects among institutions. Two future meetings in April and May have been scheduled.



To increase the number of faculty in research and the relationships between higher education and business development, the Authority hosted a Research Day at the Capitol on March 23rd. The Authority held a research expo and luncheon for the legislature to emphasize the benefits of research to Arkansas.



The expo included displays from the Authority, the Department of Economic Development, UAMS, Arkansas Bioventures, Arkansas Bioscience Institute, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Pine Bluff and Fayetteville, Arkansas State University, & Arkansas Children's Hospital.

Meeting Measures in Commercialization:

Commercialization is a goal designed to direct the development of new products and firms. Authority staff continually fulfill this measure by serving on the UAMS patent & copyright committee to review intellectual property from UAMS research, by serving on the UALR Incubator Advisory Committee which is reviewing UALR investing in an incubator for university research commercialization, and by meeting with various companies interested in state incentives. Plus, Authority staff have met with various Venture Capital funds interested in Arkansas. The Authority has also represented the state at the SSTI annual meeting, and hosted sessions on technology based economic development and private equity capital formation.

The Authority staff nurtures the relationships between higher education and business development, by meeting with clients and introducing them to other university partners.

To increase the knowledge worker jobs through entrepreneurship and new company formation, Authority staff participate in Accelerate Arkansas meetings, serve as staff for that organization, assist with the CAEDA report, plan for the Arkansas Venture Capital Forum, and participate in Techpreneur by speaking at events and helping organize meetings. Authority Staff have also attended meetings of the state team for the National Governor's Association (NGA) Pathways to Prosperity Project and provided input to the Arkansas Employment Security Department regarding high growth careers.



The House & Senate Interim Committees on Agriculture, Forestry & Economic Development met Wednesday, August 25, 2004. Authority President, Dr. John Ahlen introduced a presentation on Model Entrepreneurship Programs. Read more at <http://asta.ar.gov/>

The Authority has also sought outside support to promote entrepreneurship by pursuing a Kellogg Foundation Grant opportunity in conjunction with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and Arkansas Capital Corporation. The Authority assisted with the Don Reynolds Governors Cup by arranging judges and visiting with representatives from Oklahoma and Nevada concerning the Reynolds grant, thus satisfying the Commercialization Strategy Measure.

To support ADED's use of R&D Tax Credits, the Authority has participated in ADED client meetings and works on applications for R&D tax credits involving companies such as Ventria, Green Technologies, and Space Photonics. The Authority also supported the Commerce Capital Development Corporation's (CCDC) use of investment tax credits, by attending meetings and assisting with interactions among the state entities.

The Technology Transfer Assistance Grant Program (TTAG) assists Arkansas' enterprises in developing or improving products or processes through the transfer of technical solutions to technology-based, industry-driven problems, thus enhancing that enterprise's market competitiveness. The Authority provides limited financial support for the transfer and deployment of innovative technology. The Authority will fund up to \$3,750 of costs associated with transferring new or existing technology from a qualified applicant -- such as a public or private enterprise, laboratory, college or university -- to an enterprise based in Arkansas. Up to \$5,000 of total project costs will be considered, with the first \$2,500 funded by the Authority; the remaining \$2,500 is cost-shared equally (50:50) between the Authority and the enterprise. Each enterprise is eligible to receive assistance for two technology transfer projects per year. Projects are evaluated on a competitive basis.

Industry Type	
Air Purification Equipment Manufacturing	1
All Other Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1
Analytical Laboratory Instrument Manufacturing	6
Business Systems/Business Management	1
Custom Computer Programming Services	1
Engineering Services	2
Farm and Garden Machinery and Equipment Merchant Wholesalers	1
Gasoline Engine and Engine Parts Manufacturing	1
General Freight Trucking, Long-Distance, Less Than Truckload	1
Hand and Edge Tool Manufacturing	1
Hardware Manufacturing	1
Human Resources and Executive Search Consulting Services	1
Industrial Launderers	1
Machine Tool (Metal Cutting Types) Manufacturing	1
Nonfolding Sanitary Food Container Manufacturing	1
Other Millwork (including Flooring)	1
Other Urban Transit Systems	2
Pharmaceutical Preparation Manufacturing	2
Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences	1
Softwood Veneer and Plywood Manufacturing	1
Testing Laboratories	1
Unlaminated Plastics Profile Shape Manufacturing	1
Water Supply and Irrigation Systems	1
Total:	31

Ticket Sage Consultant Praises Authority TTAG program...



Steven Weintz was awarded a TTAG grant for his business SBW Ventures, which enabled him to work as a consultant for TicketSage, a box office systems manager. According to Stephen Cassar, president and CEO of that corporation, Steve Weintz was "instrumental in the success of Ticket Sage, Inc." and Mr. Weintz credited the Authority's TTAG program for his success.

TTAG Service Area	
Business Systems/Business Management	1
Environmental	2
Market Development	5
Material Engineering	1
Plant Layout/Manufacturing Cells	2
Product Development and Design	3
Quality/Inspection	7
SBIR Assistance	10
Total:	31

Total Projects Funded 31

Client Profile	
Average # of Employees	122
Average Age of Corporation	18
Average Year Corporation Founded	1982
Most Active County	Washington
Average Authority Investment	\$3,406.77
Total Authority Investment	\$105,610.00
Average Client Investment	\$1,164.35
Total Client Investment	\$36,095.00

TTAG SBIR SUMMARY		
Authorized Awards Total	Private Sector Total	Total Projects Funded
\$36,500	\$11,500	10

R&D Tax Credit Under Programs of the Authority

Arkansas Science & Technology Authority's Board of Directors approved an R & D Tax Credit Application for Green Technologies in FY05.

Awarded

Description

Green Technologies

Development of novel mobility assistive devices primarily wheelchairs

Meeting Measures in Industry

Arkansas Manufacturing Solutions (AMS) has continued to improve Arkansas' manufacturing and industrial competitiveness through the delivery of comprehensive technical and business assistance services.

Being an affiliate of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Manufacturing Extension Partnership (NIST MEP) AMS has strived to improve the quality, productivity and global competitiveness of Arkansas' small and medium-sized manufacturers by providing technical and business management assistance services. AMS' primary partners are the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville; Arkansas State University, Jonesboro; the University of Arkansas at Little Rock; Southern Arkansas University Tech; Winrock International; Arkansas Institute for Performance Excellence; and the Arkansas Department of Economic Development.

Eight field staff deliver services to manufacturers. Typical services include Lean Manufacturing, Quality Management Systems, Six Sigma, Environmental, Health and Safety Management Systems, and Information Technology and Strategic Business Solutions.

During the first three quarters of FY 2005, AMS staff assisted Arkansas manufacturing clients through high impact projects in the areas of Lean Manufacturing, Quality Improvement, ISO 9000 Registration, and Environmental, Health and Safety.

AMS staff completed 94 projects, which led to clients' business improvements including jobs created or retained. Assistance projects were carried out on-site with a specific company or conducted in open enrollment training, which were attended by multiple companies.

AMS is executing the AMS communication plan with the goal of being recognized as the place to go for manufacturers and industry groups. Active communication actions such as mass mailings and press releases led to the improved name recognition of AMS and increased the number of enterprises served. AMS has acquired staff, developed marketing materials and established delivery plans to offer new, high impact services including Strategic Business Solutions, Lean Six Sigma and Information Technology



AMS represented its services at the 2004 Arkansas Economic Developers Conference in Hot Springs.



For FY2005, the Board authorized funding in the amount of \$997,477 to support the director and eight field staff: three at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville; three at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock; one at Arkansas State University; and one at Southern Arkansas University Tech. The Board also authorized \$25,250 for partner activities and \$37,500 for technology transfer assistance grants. On October 14, 2004, Arkansas Manufacturing Solutions received the 2004 Arkansas Institute for Performance Excellence Quality Commitment award. The following improvements were reported by clients during the NIST MEP Survey of AMS projects completed from January 2003-December 2003 with Arkansas companies:

Increased or Retained Sales	\$31,427,000
Cost Savings	\$6,792,126
Company Investments	\$3,993,660
Jobs Created or Retained	540

Purpose:

In April of 2004, Arkansas Manufacturing Extension Network changed its name to Arkansas Manufacturing Solutions (AMS). AMS is designed to improve Arkansas' manufacturing and industrial competitiveness through the delivery of comprehensive technical and business assistance services.

AMS Description:

AMS is an affiliate of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Manufacturing Extension Partnership (NIST MEP). It strives to improve the quality, productivity and global competitiveness of Arkansas' small and medium-sized manufacturers by providing technical and business management assistance services.

AMS' primary partners are the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville; Southern Arkansas University Tech, Camden; Arkansas State University, Jonesboro; the University of Arkansas at Little Rock; Winrock International, Morrilton; Arkansas Institute for Performance Excellence; and Arkansas Department of Economic Development.

Eight field staff deliver services to manufacturers. Typical services include Lean Manufacturing, Quality Management Systems, Six Sigma, Environmental, Health & Safety Management Systems, and General Technical and Management Assistance.

Awards:

For FY2005, the Board authorized funding in the amount of \$997,477 to support the director and eight field staff: three at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville; three at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock; one at Arkansas State University; and one at Southern Arkansas University Tech. The Board also authorized \$25,250 for partner activities and \$37,500 for Technology Transfer Assistance Grants.



On October 14th, 2004, Lydia Carson, Director of AMS and Vice President Industry at the Arkansas Science & Technology Authority accepted the 2004 Arkansas Institute for Performance Excellence Commitment Award, on behalf of AMS.

In FY 05 Q1, Q2 and Q3 (July 2004 - March 2005), AMS field staff completed 94 projects and served 153 companies.

Substance	Total
Business Systems/Business Management	8
CAD/CAM/CAE	0
EDI/Communications/LAN	1
Environmental	26
General	8
Human Resources	1
Market Development	0
Process Improvement	36
Product Development and Design	1
Quality Inspection	14
Total	94

Funding Received	
NIST Funding	\$ 573,309.50
Client Fees	\$ 327,761.67
State Funding	\$ 124,344.42
Total	\$ 1,025,415.59

Naics Grp	Industry Type	Total
311	Food Manufacturing	7
312	Beverage & Tobacco Product Manufacturing	3
313	Textile Mills	1
315	Apparel Manufacturing	3
316	Leather and Applied Product Manufacturing	3
321	Wood Product Manufacturing	10
322	Paper Manufacturing	8
323	Printing and Related Support Activities	4
324	Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing	2
325	Chemical Manufacturing	7
326	Plastic and Rubber Product Manufacturing	12
327	Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	4
331	Primary Metal Manufacturing	7
332	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	16
333	Machinery Manufacturing	16
334	Computer & Electronic Product Manufacturing	5
335	Electrical Equipment, Appliance & Component Mfg.	13
336	Transportation Equipment	12
337	Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	7
339	Miscellaneous Manufacturing	1
	Other	17
	Total	158

OPERATING REPORT

Operating Plan (FY2005)

Revision Date: 03/31/2005

Owner: Fiscal
Officer

General Operations		Actual				
Character	Budget	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Total
Regular Salaries	521,124	124,347.91	133,674.24	123,138.93		381,161
Extra Help	12,000	2,448.00	0.00	0.00		2,448
Maintenance and Operations	144,204	37,696.24	24,190.63	39,334.93		101,222
Fringe Benefits	138,654	36,561.84	31,704.04	33,219.03		101,485
Research	0					0
(Reallocation)	0					0
Conference Fees and Training	27,223	230.36	5,084.34	4,557.95		9,873
Professional Fees	16,800		185.72	40.00		226
Capital Outlay	0					0
Marketing and Redistribution	0					0
Technology Development	154,352	27,475.00	32,500.00	34,385.00		94,360
TOTAL	1,014,357	228,759.35	227,338.97	234,675.84	0.00	690,774

Network Support		Actual				
Character	Budget	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Total
Act 1291 of 2003	257,182	0.00	124,344.42	60,634.91		184,979



Seed Capital Fund	Character	Budget	Actual				Total
			1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	
	Seed Capital Fund Balance	1,737,302	0.00	50,000.00	0.00		50,000

Network Operations	Character	Budget	Actual				Total
			1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	
	Regular Salaries	129,756	34,084.68	34,182.99	29,299.66		97,567
	Maintenance and Operations	124,456	19,397.78	22,985.59	15,362.10		57,745
	Fringe Benefits	34,396	9,747.51	8,085.88	8,060.80		25,894
	Grants	200,000	15,019.50	12,792.00	12,124.78		39,936
	Conference Fees and Training	37,928	2,987.29	5,480.38	755.89		9,224
	Professional Fees	50,000		3,000.00	5,639.00		8,639
	Capital Outlay	0			0.00	0	0
	Field Services	997,477	265,227	88,561	188,680		542,468
	Miscellaneous Fees	0					0
	TOTAL	1,574,013	346,463.69	175,087.98	259,921.94	0.00	781,474

Grants Received	Character	Ann'l Budget	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Total
	Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation: Middle School Science Year 2 of 3 Total award \$405,000	135,000	32,500.00	66,189.53	1,947.99		100,638
	Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation: Entrepreneurial Arkansas Year 1 of 3 Total award \$443,750	381,473	412.08	25,515.70	25,612.06		51,540
	Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation: Transition of Middle School Science to AR Community Foundation Year 1 of 2 Total award \$49,830	29,507		3,521.75	958.91		4,481

Current Board of Directors

<p style="text-align: center;">John White, Ph.D. - Chair Chancellor University of Arkansas, Fayetteville Term Expires 2006</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Neil Rutger, Ph.D. – Vice Chair Chief Scientist / Res Geneticist Dale Bumpers National Rice Research Center USDA Agricultural Research Service Term Expires 2009 <u>Authority Research Committee Chair</u></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sue McGowan - Secretary Director of Economic Development/CEO Paragould /Greene County Chamber of Commerce Term Expires 2008 <u>Authority Investment Committee Chair</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Collis Geren Vice Provost for Research University of Arkansas, Fayetteville Term Expires 2009</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Johnny Hooks Agency Field Executive State Farm Insurance Term Expires 2008</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">David Eberdt Private Sector Term Expires 2007</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Harry Ward, M.D. <u>Biography (pdf)</u> Professor of Medicine and Retired Chancellor University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences - Little Rock Term Expires 2006</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bum Lee Account Director Fidelity Information Services Term Expires 2007</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">D.W. May <u>Biography (pdf)</u> May and Associates Term Expires 2006</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rickey Williams President & Chief Executive Officer Rickey Williams & Associates, Inc. Term Expires 2007</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Steve Floyd Arkansas Department of Higher Education Little Rock Term Permanent</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Robert Hall President Hall Manufacturing Term Expires 2008</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Gordon Knetzer Owner Advance Construction Systems, Inc. Term Expires 2007</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Gary Phillips Owner of The Small Town Computer Guys Term Expires 2009</p>

Staff

<p style="text-align: center;">John W. Ahlen, Ph.D. President (501) 683-4400 john.ahlen@arkansas.gov</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Chuck Myers Executive Vice President (501) 683-4403 chuck.myers@arkansas.gov</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Leslie G. Lane V.P. Finance (501) 683-4408 les.lane@arkansas.gov</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lydia Carson V.P. Industry (501) 683-4411 lydia.carson@arkansas.gov</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Gail McClure V.P. Research (501) 683-4407 gail.mcclure@arkansas.gov</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Larry J. Smith Information System Planner (501) 683-4412 larry.smith@arkansas.gov</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Scott Snider Communications Mgr. (501) 683-4405 scott.snider@arkansas.gov</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cathy Ma Research Program Mgr. (501) 683-4422 cathy.ma@arkansas.gov</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Ed Sartain Fiscal Officer (501) 683-4416 ed.sartain@arkansas.gov</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Tiki S. Alexander Accounting Supervisor (501) 683-4417 tiki.williams@arkansas.gov</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">James Watkins, Jr. (JJ) Finance Program Mgr. (501) 683-4409 james.watkins@arkansas.gov</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Tovia Chan Operations Manager Manufacturing Ext. (501) 683-4410 tovia.chan@arkansas.gov</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Amy Scivally Project Analyst (501) 683-4415 amy.scivally@arkansas.gov</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Chase Conyer Research Project Analyst (501) 683-4414 chase.conyer@arkansas.gov</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Melissa Adams Business Controller (501) 683-4421 melissa.adams@arkansas.gov</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Danielle Morris Executive Secretary (501) 683-4400 danielle.morris@arkansas.gov</p>

AMS Project Managers

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Loren Berry</u> <i>Project Manager</i> University of Arkansas - Fayetteville Engineering Research Center 700 Research Blvd. Fayetteville, AR 72701 Phone: (479) 575-6886 Fax: (479) 575-7446 Email: lberry@engr.uark.edu www.mfgsolutions.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Scotty McKnight, CIH, CSP, CHMM</u> <i>Project Manager</i> University of Arkansas - Fayetteville Engineering Research Center 700 Research Blvd. Fayetteville, AR 72701 Phone: (479) 651-5439 Fax: (479) 996-4114 Email: smcknight1@cox-internet.com www.mfgsolutions.org</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Pamela Speraw</u> <i>Account Manager</i> University of Arkansas at Little Rock Reynolds Business Center 2801 S. University Avenue Little Rock, AR 72204 Phone: (501) 944-8492 Fax: (501) 683-4420 Email: psperaw@ualr.edu www.mfgsolutions.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sherry Smith</u> <i>Project Manager</i> University of Arkansas at Little Rock Reynolds Business Center 2801 S. University Avenue Little Rock, AR 72204 Phone: (501) 837-8679 Fax: (501) 683-4420 Email: smith1205@aol.com www.mfgsolutions.org</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Bill Kraus</u> <i>Project Manager</i> Delta Center for Economic Development 4110 Lindberg Jonesboro, AR 72401 Phone: (870) 910-8180 Fax: (870) 910-8185 Cell: (870) 897-5135 Email: wkraus@astate.edu www.mfgsolutions.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Tom Mann, P.E.</u> <i>Project Manager</i> Southern Arkansas University Tech P.O. Box 3499 East Camden, AR 71711-1599 Phone: (870) 574-4545 Fax: (870) 574-4538 Cell: (870) 818-2439 Email: tmann@sautech.edu www.mfgsolutions.org</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Jim Lilly</u> <i>Project Manager</i> University of Arkansas at Little Rock Reynolds Business Center 2801 S. University Avenue Little Rock, AR 72204 Phone: (501) 569-8221 Fax: (501) 569-8442 Email: jlilly@ualr.edu www.mfgsolutions.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Joe McCoy</u> <i>Project Manager</i> University of Arkansas - Fayetteville Engineering Research Center 700 Research Blvd. Fayetteville, AR 72701 Cell: (479) 957-0614 Phone: (479) 575-3190 Fax: (479) 575-7446 Email: jcmccoy@uark.edu www.mfgsolutions.org</p>